

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 03542 281824Z POSS DUPE  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05  
IO-13 SSM-03 MCT-01 EUR-12 /090 W  
-----010727 076481 /14

R 281521Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2222  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWIAT  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3542

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR EG PLO  
SUBJ: SADAT'S EFFORTS FOR PLO MODERATION

REF: (A) CAIRO 3237, (B) JIDDA 1563

1. HKJ/PALESTINIAN LINKAGE. JIDDA REFTEL NOTES THAT EMBASSY JIDDA IS HEARING ARAFAT TILTS TOWARD "SYRIAN POSITION" THAT LINKAGE SHOULD OCCUR AFTER, NOT BEFORE, ESTABLISHMENT PALESTINIAN STATE. WHATEVER ARAFAT'S CURRENT STATE OF MIND, IT IMPORTANT TO RECALL THAT IN SADAT'S JUDGEMENT, ARAFAT HAS FORMALLY AGREED TO TRY FOR PRIOR LINKAGE. WHILE THERE IS REAL DANGER SADAT MAY BE OVERESTIMATING HIS INFLUENCE ON ARAFAT AND/OR ARAFAT'S INFLUENCE WITHIN PNC, WE THINK THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT BOTH THAT SADAT BELIEVES HE HAS ARAFAT'S AGREEMENT, ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY GIVEN, AND THAT SADAT IS DOING HIS UTMOST  
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TO ENSURE A CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME FOR PNC.

2. SARG POSITION. REFTEL SUGGESTS SARG IS FIRMLY ON SIDE OF LINK AFTER WB/GAZA STATE ESTABLISHED. WE UNAWARE OF SARR POSITION AT PRESENT, BUT SADAT HAS MADE IT CLEAR HE BELIEVES ASAD CAN BE PERSUADED TO AGREE WITH EGYPTIAN STRATEGY, IF

HE HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO IN PRIVATE.

3. PALESTINIAN SOVEREIGNTY. CONCERNING QADDUMI'S PUBLIC INSISTENCE ON SEPARATE PALESTINIAN ARMY, ETC., IT PERHAPS USEFUL RECALL THAT GOE VIEW OF LINKED STATE HAS ALWAYS BEEN PREDICATED ON PALESTINIAN POLITICAL ENTITY RETAINING SOVEREIGNTY.

4. FATAH/ISRAELI CONTACTS. POINT, WE ASSUME, OF PLO OFFICERS' SELF-SERVING INSISTENCE THAT IT IS FATAH, NOT PLO, WHICH AUTHORIZED TALK TO ISRAELIS (REF B, PARA 2) IS THAT IF INITIATIVE BACKFIRES, PLO IS IN CLEAR, HAVING REPUDIATED SUCH CONTACTS FROM THE BEGINNING. PRESUMABLY, NON-FATAH PLO MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS DO NOT ENDORSE THESE EFFORTS.

5. AMENDMENT OF NATIONAL CHARTER. AS WE HAVE REPEATEDLY REPORTED AND AS EMBASSY JIDDA REMARKS, ARAFAT'S ABILITY GET CONSTRUCTIVE CHARTER REVISIONS OUT OF SUSPICIOUS PNC IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY. IN ANY CASE, ACCORDING TO FINAL ARTICLE OF CHARTER, AMENDMENTS CAN NOT BE INTRODUCED AT MARCH 12 MEETING, AS SPECIAL SESSION NECESSARY FOR ANY SUCH REVISION. WE THINK POINT OF SIGNIFICANCE IS THAT WHILE SADAT MAY AGAIN BE OVER-ESTIMATING HIS CAPACITY INFLUENCE OUTCOME OF PNC, HE DESERVES HIGH MARKS FOR TRYING. FEW ARAB LEADERS HAVE EVER DARED GIVE PALESTINIANS ADVICE, AND FEW STILL HAVE DARED BE PUBLIC ABOUT IT. WE CAUTION AGAIN, HOWEVER, THAT EGYPTIANS TRADITIONALLY GIVEN TO EASY ASSUMPTION THAT THEY CAN WITH HARD WORK AND PERSERVERANCE, MAKE ARAB WORLD IN GENERAL AND PALESTINIANS IN PARTICULAR DO THEIR BIDDING. WE SHOULD NOT SET OUT HOPES TOO HIGH, BUT IF SYRIANS AND ESPECIALLY SAUDIS CAN BE INDUCED

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TO JOIN SADAT IN PUSHING PALESTINIAN MODERATES HARD, PNC COULD YET TURN OUT SOMETHING USEFUL.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 CAIRO 3237, 77 JIDDA 1563  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, EG, XF, PLO, (SADAR, ANWAR), (ARAFAT, YASSER)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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